

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Serial Number: 09/658,795

Filing Date: September 11, 2000

Title: Transaction-Based Object-Oriented Multipart Database Method and Apparatus

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**In the Claims**

1 - 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) A computerized method for a transaction-based object-oriented multipart database system, comprising:

receiving a plurality of transactions for the database system including a first transaction from a service provider and a second transaction from a service consumer, wherein the first and the second transactions are each associated with the service consumer;

storing the plurality of transactions into the database system;

selectively enabling access by the service consumer, based on an identification of the service consumer, to the stored first and second transactions associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled; and

accessing the stored first and second transactions associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled, the accessing being performed by the service consumer to whom access is enabled.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein receiving transactions further comprises receiving transactions by a docketing provider.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein accessing the stored transactions further comprises viewing a log of pending action items.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the service consumer uses a browser to access the stored transactions.

14. (Previously presented) A computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions, wherein the instructions when read and executed by a computer comprise:

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receiving a plurality of transactions for the database system including a first transaction from a service provider and a second transaction from a service consumer, wherein the first and the second transactions are each associated with the service consumer ;

storing the plurality of transactions into the database system; and

selectively enabling access by the service consumer, based on an identification of the service consumer, to the stored first and second transactions associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable media of claim 14, wherein receiving transactions further comprises: receiving the transactions at a docketing provider system.

16. (Previously presented) The computer-readable media of claim 14, wherein the transaction is associated with a patent application service matter.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:  
a receiver coupled to receive database transactions, the transactions being from a first service provider and from a first service consumer, wherein each of these transactions is associated with the first service consumer and are each transactions that add information regarding a patent application to the database;  
storage operatively coupled to store information of the plurality of database transactions;  
means for enabling access by the service consumer to stored transactions regarding the patent application associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled; and  
means for accessing the stored transactions associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled, the accessing being performed by the service consumer to whom access is enabled.

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19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the receiver is also coupled to receive transactions from a docketing provider, and wherein the storage also stores docketing information, the system further comprising means for enabling access by the first service provider to the docketing information.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the means for accessing the stored transactions further comprises means for viewing a log of pending action items.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the service consumer uses a browser to access the stored transactions.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the receiver receives an electronic message, the system further comprising:  
a decoder that extracts the transaction from the electronic message.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, further comprising at the service provider:  
an input device that obtains a database transaction;  
an encoder that inserts the transaction into an electronic message; and  
a transmitter that sends the electronic message to the receiver.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, further comprising:  
a database stored in the storage, the database holding data for a plurality of service consumers including the first service consumer and for the first service provider; and  
a database transaction processor operatively coupled to the receiver of database transaction information and to the storage.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the receiver is also coupled to receive transactions from a docketing provider, and wherein the storage also stores

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docketing information, the system further comprising means for enabling access by the first service provider to the docketing information.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the means for accessing the stored transactions further comprises means for viewing a log of pending action items.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the service consumer uses a browser to access the stored transactions.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the receiver receives an electronic message, the system further comprising:  
a decoder that extracts the transaction from the electronic message.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising at the service provider:  
an input device that obtains a database transaction;  
an encoder that inserts the transaction into an electronic message; and  
a transmitter that sends the electronic message to the receiver.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein each of the receiving transactions further comprises:  
receiving an electronic message; and  
decoding the transaction from the electronic message.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising at the service provider:  
receiving a database transaction;  
encoding the transaction into an electronic message; and  
transmitting the electronic message.

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32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the receiving of transactions further comprises receiving transactions by a docketing provider.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the accessing of the stored transactions further comprises viewing a log of pending action items.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the service consumer uses a browser to access the stored transactions.

35. (Previously presented) A computerized method for a database system, comprising:  
receiving a plurality of transactions for the database system including a first transaction from a service provider associated with an intellectual property law lawyer and a second transaction from a service consumer, wherein the first and the second transactions are each associated with the service consumer and are each transactions that add information regarding a patent application to the database;

storing the plurality of transactions into the database system;

selectively enabling access by the service consumer, based on an identification of the service consumer, to the stored first and second transactions regarding the patent application associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled; and  
accessing the stored first and second transactions associated with the service consumer to whom access is enabled, the accessing being performed by the service consumer to whom access is enabled.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein receiving transactions further comprises receiving transactions by a patent docketing provider.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein accessing the stored transactions further comprises viewing a log of pending action items for the patent application.